

# Designs with a spirit of '76

By Roger Boye

THE U. S. quarter, half-dollar, and dollar coins will have new reverse designs in 1976 to commemorate the American bicentennial observance.

The new design for the reverse of the U. S. quarter was drawn by Jack L. Ahr of Arlington Heights.

Ahr's drawing of a colonial drummer was selected from approximately 1,000 entries received by the Treasury Department in the national bicentennial coin design competition. He will receive awards totaling \$5,750 from the Treasury Department for the design.

"I've always been impressed with the Revolutionary War painting which includes the drummer boy," Ahr said. The best way to describe American history, he added, is thru people.

The 42-year-old Ahr, who has been drawing since he was very young, owns Jack Ahr Design and Sales, which specializes in the design of custom products, sale and



*Reverse of bicentennial quarter*

employe incentives, and special awards.

His design, which will appear on as many as 2.5 billion quarters made for general circulation from July 4, 1975 thru 1976, also includes the Torch of Freedom surrounded by 13 stars, reflecting the determination of the colonial soldier.

The obverse [heads side] of the Washington quarter, Kennedy half-dollar and Eisenhower dollar will remain as they are, except the coins will carry the double date 1776-1976. Ahr said his initials are to appear on the reverse of the quarter.

The reverse of the half-dollar to be made for the bicen-

tennial period shows Independence Hall in Philadelphia and was drawn by Seth G. Huntington of Minneapolis.

The Eisenhower dollar reverse was drawn by Dennis R. Williams of Columbus, Ohio, and combines the Liberty bell with the surface of the moon.

The president of the National Sculpture Society, Robert A. Weinman, chaired the panel of judges which selected six of the 1,000 entries for the final judging. The final judging was performed earlier this month in Washington by a committee which included Mrs. Mary Brooks, director of the U. S. Mint.

Persons wishing to be placed on the U. S. Mint's mailing list to receive information about ordering uncirculated and proof sets of the bicentennial coins should write the Bureau of the Mint, 55 Mint St., San Francisco, Cal. 94175.

*If you have any questions about coins and collecting, send them to me, in care of Room 414, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Av., Chicago, Ill. 60611. But, please, do not send coins.*